

ORG 1 Willey (John) +
Sons
P. Moss, Robert

WILEY WITHHOLDS BOOK WITH POSSIBLE CIA LINK

John Wiley & Sons is withholding from further distribution "Chile's Marxist Experiment" by Robert Moss, published by its Halsted Press division in 1974, until allegations that it was commissioned by a CIA front organization in London can be cleared up.

"We're trying to run down the facts on this to determine whether the report is accurate," Richard Schmidt, Wiley's attorney in Washington, told PW. "We're just as puzzled as we can be. Wiley and Halsted are naturally very upset if they have published a CIA book and didn't know about it."

A House Judiciary Subcommittee is looking into the matter of CIA book connections. Chairman Donald Ed-

wards (D., Calif.) of the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Civil and Constitutional Rights told PW that the Moss book was commissioned by Forum World Features, a now defunct London-based news service he described as "a CIA-subsidized propaganda operation."

"I'm fascinated," Edwards said. "The CIA seems to be going through the back door to distribute books in the United States. They have no business doing this. It violates the charter of the CIA, and going to a higher law, it's unconstitutional. It violates the First Amendment."

Asked whether other CIA-commissioned books had been distributed in this country, Edwards said: "I don't know but we will find out." He went on to say that "the people in New York are innocent. I'm sure they wouldn't have published the book if they had known. They were not told the full facts by the English publisher."

Warren Sullivan, president of Halsted, said the book on Chile, first published in England by David & Charles in 1973, had "come through a normal publishing arrangement. We do a lot of business with David & Charles, and have imported many titles from them—all the way from astronomy to geology to political science. It was a topical book in the political science arena by an author with good credentials. We have talked with David & Charles and they knew nothing about the alleged connection with the CIA. Nor did Halsted Press. This news about the book is news to us as well."

Edwards said that Forum World Features, which closed two years ago, has been replaced in London by Rossiter Publications. "It's the same outfit under a different name. It's also a CIA front."

Only 900 or so copies of the Moss book were sold in the United States. "It wasn't any 'Forever Amber,'" Representative Edwards commented. But he said a Subcommittee staffer produced a copy merely by going to the Chilean Embassy in Washington and asking for it.

SUSAN WAGNER

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